

PRESS RELEASE

June 7, 2006

RE: UNITED STATES v. CRAIG SIKUT

United States Attorney Terrance P. Flynn announced today that a Federal Grand Jury returned a three-count Indictment charging Craig Sikut, age 49, of Amherst, New York, with the production and possession of false government identification credentials. Sikut was also charged with lying to federal investigators about whether he had actively represented himself to be a federal government official.

Sikut, who was a former investigator with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), an agency of the Department of Defense, was first arrested in March 2005, by the Amherst Police Department on a charge of false personation. At the time of his arrest, Sikut was found to be in possession of numerous official looking U.S. government credentials from various federal law enforcement and other agencies. Sikut officially left government service in October 1996, but since that time, the Indictment charges that he had continued to hold himself out to be a federal investigator or other high ranking U.S. government official.

The false document charge, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028(a)(6), carries a maximum penalty of 15 years imprisonment, a fine of \$250,000.00, or both. It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime

. . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. (**Disciplinary Rule 7-107(B)(6)**).

Sikut is expected to be arraigned before Magistrate Judge Leslie G. Foschio on June 8, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. The Indictment was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Special Agent-In-Charge Laurie Bennett, and the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, under the direction of Michael Montes, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Syracuse Resident Agency.

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